Respirator Training

NEPMU-6

Reference

- OPNAVINST 5100.19E, Chapter B6
- OPNAVINST 5100.23G, Chapter 15

Respirator Classes

- Air Purifying
  - Remove air contaminants by filtering, absorbing, or adsorbing as air passes through a filtering mechanism
- Supplied Air
  - Used when:
    - Contaminant has no warning properties
    - Concentrations too high for APR
    - Environment is Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH)
- SCBA

Air Purifying Respirators

Disposable

IDLH

- Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health
  - Oxygen deficiency
  - Lethal concentrations of toxic gases
- Caused by
  - Eductors
  - Painting
  - CHT
  - Spilled HAZMAT
  - Freon
  - Poor ventilation

Cartridges

- Cartridge life depends on
  - Concentration of the contaminant
  - User breathing rate and volume
  - Humidity in the air
  - Other factors
- Do not use smell as an indicator of breakthrough!

Cartridges

- Filters/Cartridges are color coded
  - Organic vapor (OV) -- black
  - Particle filter (HEPA) -- purple
  - Acid gas -- yellow / white
  - Ammonia -- green
- DO NOT “mix-and-match” respirator components--ILLEGAL!

Responsiblities

- All Hands
  - Fully complete the medical evaluation questionnaire
  - Get fit tested
  - Inspect respirators before and after each use
  - Perform positive & negative seal checks prior to each use
  - Report malfunctions to supervisor
  - Prevent damage or loss to respiratory equipment

Medically Qualify

- Some medical problems may prevent wearing respirator
  - Respiratory, cardiovascular diseases
  - Physical deformities
  - Medications
  - Neurological problems
  - Psychological conditions

Fit Testing

- Respirators exist in variety of styles, shapes, sizes
  - Half and full facepiece respirators come in small, medium, and large sizes
  - Each user must be tested in the mask they will use
  - Fit testing conducted by trained individual to ensure respirator does not leak

Positive & Negative Fit Checks

- Required every time respirator is donned.
- Positive Seal Check
  - Cover exhalation valve and breathe out slightly
- Negative Seal Check
  - Cover inhalation valve/cartridge and inhale
- Mask should not leak around face seal

Wearing a Respirator

- Wearing of spectacles, corrective glasses, face shields, goggles, or other eye/face protection equipment shall not interfere with the seal of the facepiece to the face.
- Facial hair is prohibited!

Cleaning & Maintenance

- Inspection
  - All reusable respirators shall be routinely inspected before and after each use
  - Missing parts renders a respirator useless
- Store in zip-lock bag
- Keep away from heat or strong chemicals
- Keep in cool dark place

Questions?